



**CAMPAIGN TO
ELIMINATE
DRUNK DRIVING**

SB 1031
SB 1034

**Johanna Krebs
Victim Services Specialist
Connecticut Affiliate of Mothers Against Drunk Driving
Before the Judiciary Committee
Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 22**

My name is Johanna Krebs, Victim Services Specialist for the Connecticut Affiliate of Mothers Against Drunk Driving. Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of Senate Bill 22.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving believes this Committee should support Senate Bill 22, "An Act Increasing the Penalty for Manslaughter in the Second Degree with a Motor Vehicle". We respectfully request a reclassification for manslaughter in the second degree with a motor vehicle while intoxicated from a class C felony to a class B felony.

In 2009, 99 CT citizens were killed by a drunk driver with a BAC >.08. 98% of those cases were plea bargained in criminal court – and although the current statute calls for a 10 year prison sentence, the vast majority of those convicted drunk drivers received 10 years incarceration SUSPENDED after 3-4 years served! A class C felony!

It is imperative that this crime, which is 100% preventable, be sentenced as the crime it is – a class B felony. If current sitting judges and state's attorneys cannot and will not give a 10 year imprisonment sentence, then the law needs to change, "forcing" them to give an appropriate sentence. The Manslaughter II and Assault II sentences in CT have become complacent and meaningless.

- Courts must order all offenders convicted of a class B felony with a minimum term of imprisonment of ten years which may not be suspended or reduced by court.

In conclusion, Mothers Against Drunk Driving urges this Committee to advance Senate Bill 22. Thank you.